

tooled down a lot-of-highways, often with Lee at the wheel, to some memorable assignments where usually he'd run into a friend or perhaps an unknown admirer. One or the other nearly always surfaced.

I suppose we had quite a bit in common, the Coach and I. In many respects, football was the centerpiece of our respective careers. We both believed mightily in a man named Wallace Wade. We could both sing the praises of Wade's renowned single wing and the wide-tackle Six. And it might be of some small significance to note that we were both transplanted Yankees who fell in love with and found a home in North Carolina. Down at Clemson, where Randleman-born Bob Bradley was ever the thoughtful host. . . . they even taught us to eat catfish.

I suppose all of you, each in his or her own private moment, will eulogize Lee Jay Stone far better than I . . . in ways more meaningful to you. Perhaps you will come up with something better to say that he was "something else" or "one of a kind." You must certainly know of Lee's love for God and Country.

Whatever the words you choose, whatever the memories you have of Lee Stone, you are likely to conclude that this man of monumental stature has had a profound influence on this community and every player, coach, student, educator, fellow citizen, friend . . . on anybody who enjoyed even the most casual relationship with him. Those who were closest to him . . . his beloved daughters, Frances and Susan, his son-in-law Joe, his wonderful grandchildren . . . only they can calculate fully the tremendous void left by his passing.

We all know Lee Stone ran the race well . . . maybe beginning in the Yale Bowl where he set prep school records in track. We know Lee fought the good fight right down to the end Tuesday morning.

As for me . . . of all the moments I was privileged to share with Lee, the one that lingers is that which occurred the night he presented me for membership in a local civic club.

Coach Stone put his arm around me and told the Kiwanians: "I love him like a brother!!" The feeling, Coach, was mutual; the compliment, immeasurable.

I know full well I was scarcely alone in this world as somebody Lee Stone loved. I had plenty of company. Brotherly love was something he bestowed generously.

We all are richer for it.

Again, in the words of his admiring friend . . . one of the Good Ole Boys who went on ahead . . . Lee Jay Stone was "something else." The man was one of a kind.

And, oh, yes . . .

I shall not soon forget the last real conversation I had with Coach Stone in the final phases of his gallant fight.

It was at Clapp's . . . where the attendants came to love the Coach and give him such compassionate care.

I had started away from his chair, heading for the parking lot, when he sort of barked at me as only he could.

"Hey", he said, with his best practice field emphasis.

"When I get out of there in a few days, we'll have to make another of our trips."

This trip is one the Coach makes pretty much on his own.

But I am convinced that there awaits a glorious journey's end where, whenever legendary coaches gather in the larger life, Lee Jay Stone will be joining the likes of Wade and Neyland and Lee's fellow Hall of Famer, Bob Jamieson, in extolling the virtues of the single wing and the wide tackle Six. Their praises will be sung into eternity.

Safe journey, Lee. Catch up with you later.

HONORING LITHUANIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 1998

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the people of Lithuania as they celebrate their independence day.

Lithuania has known a long history both brave and tragic. Despite a proud past, the people of Lithuania endured the forcible incorporation of the homeland into the former Soviet Union. After fifty one years of Soviet domination, Lithuania successfully overcame these oppressive efforts, and declared its independence on March 11, 1990.

Independence did not come easily. Ten months after this restoration of independence, the newly free Lithuania withstood a bloody and lethal assault from a stronger Soviet Union, an end to its supply of Soviet oil and gas, and 15 protesters killed in Vilnius by Soviet troops. These acts, however, were not enough to subdue the spirit of the Lithuanian people. The fire of freedom was fueled by the will of the people, and by the brave leaders of the region.

Since Lithuania regained its independence on March 11, 1990, the United States has played a critical role in helping it implement democratic and free market reforms and solidify its position as a European democracy. Together, the United States and Lithuania have worked to maintain strength and security throughout Europe.

Earlier this year, the United States and Lithuania signed the Baltic Charter. The Charter recalls this region's tragic history, and underscores that the U.S. has a "real, profound, and enduring" interest in the security and independence of all three Baltic countries. In hope it is sign of the deepening of mutual cooperation and shared interests between our two countries for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Lithuania committed themselves to take a stand against repression and communism. And today, they celebrate the fruits of that commitment on their independence day. I comment the people of Lithuania for their courage and perseverance in using peaceful means to regain their independence, and I hope you will join me in wishing them the best on this historic day.

CELEBRATING LITHUANIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 1998

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, as a proud descendant of Lithuanian immigrants, it is my honor to pay tribute to this day in Lithuanian history. On this day eight years ago, a 51-year foreign occupation of the country as a result of the Nazi-Soviet Pact ended, allowing for the establishment of a new democratic state.

The people of Lithuania endured many years of imposed communist dictatorship and cultural genocide while trying to accomplish their strive to independence. During this time, they engaged in non-violent movement in sup-

port of their cause for change politically and socially. Working faithfully towards democracy through protest and perseverance, the people of Lithuania held their first democratic elections in Lithuania in more than half a century in 1990—restoring their independence on this day eight years ago.

Less than a year later, in January, 1991, foreign troops launched a bloody and virulent assault on the people and government of Lithuania. Again, the Lithuanians had to defend themselves against this oppressive regime and were able to once again bring about democratic reforms.

Nine months later, Lithuania became a member of the United Nations. Additionally, Lithuania participates in other international organizations such as the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the North Atlantic Cooperation Council, and the Council of Europe. It has applied to join NATO and is an associate member of the EU, waiting for negotiations for future membership.

As a man who nobly represents the United States and strongly supports Lithuania, I commend the people of Lithuania for their courage and tenacity in their use of peaceful means to regain their independence. I unite with the Lithuanian people in celebrating their independence day and look forward to the day when we can all celebrate their entrance into NATO.

NATIONAL ARTS ADVOCACY DAY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 1998

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today is National Arts Advocacy Day, a time to focus on the fact that American creativity is driven by the arts. The most creative aspect of American art springs from our diversity. The history of the United States is depicted by the arts—paintings, photography, dancing, music, poetry, theater, literature, architecture.

National Arts Advocacy Day is a day in which we can realize the importance of the arts to our culture and economy. It is a day to remember that the arts are an integral part of our lives in both rural and urban communities. San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York City all revolve around the arts. Where would those cities be without such enthusiasm for the world of art and the revenue derived from public support of the arts?

We are working in the U.S. Capitol, a living museum of art and history that tells the story of democracy in the United States. Yet today, more than ever, what this building demonstrates is the creative talent of this country displayed in priceless paintings, photographs, works of sculpture in Statuary Hall, and in the very architecture of the building which is the symbol of the greatest democracy in the world.

We must invest more money in the arts to perpetuate creativity in future generations. The return on every federal dollar invested in the arts is phenomenal. Every \$1 of federal support for the arts—local ballets, music concerts, theater—generates an average of \$12 in matching funds. For the past two years the National Endowment for the Arts has requested \$136 million dollars from Congress to